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FOOD POLICY
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IFPRI's Collaborative Research and Capacity Strengthening Activities in Central Asia

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Training Course on Introductory Econometric Analysis, November 14-18, Dushanbe, Tajikistan

IFPRI Overview

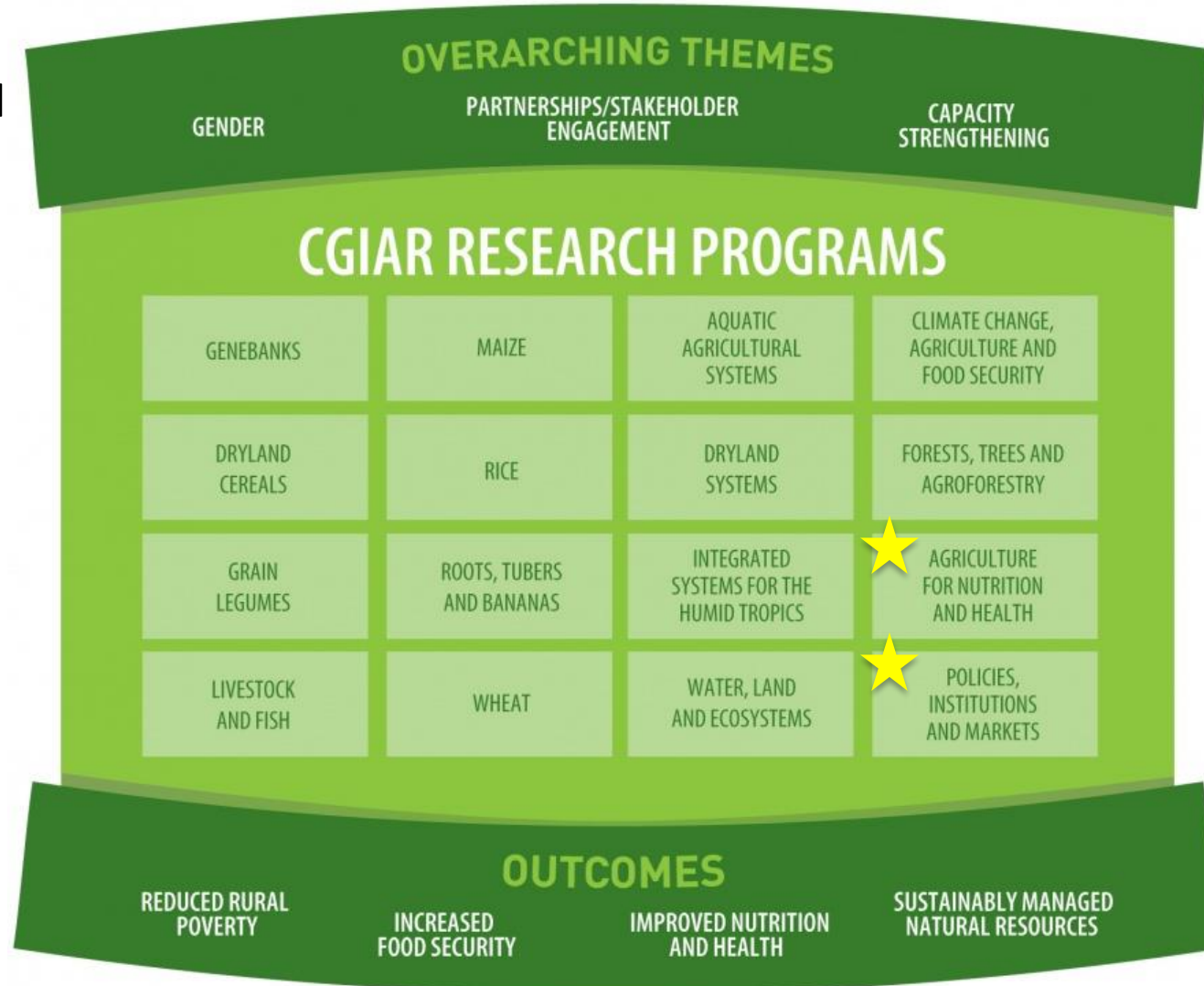
IFPRI is one of 15 international research centers supported by CGIAR



IFPRI Overview (cont'd)

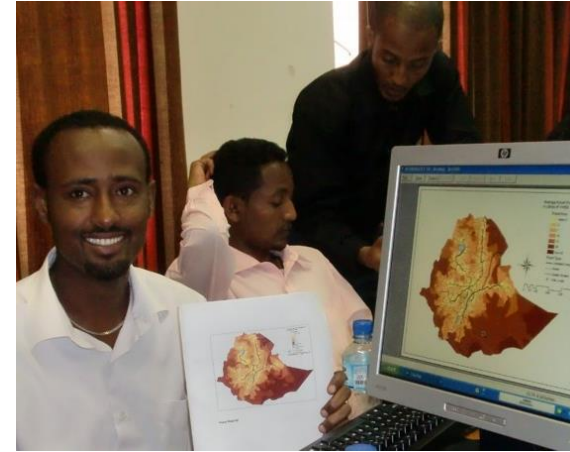
IFPRI leads two CGIAR research programs

1. Policies, Institutions and Markets
2. Agriculture for Improved Nutrition and Health

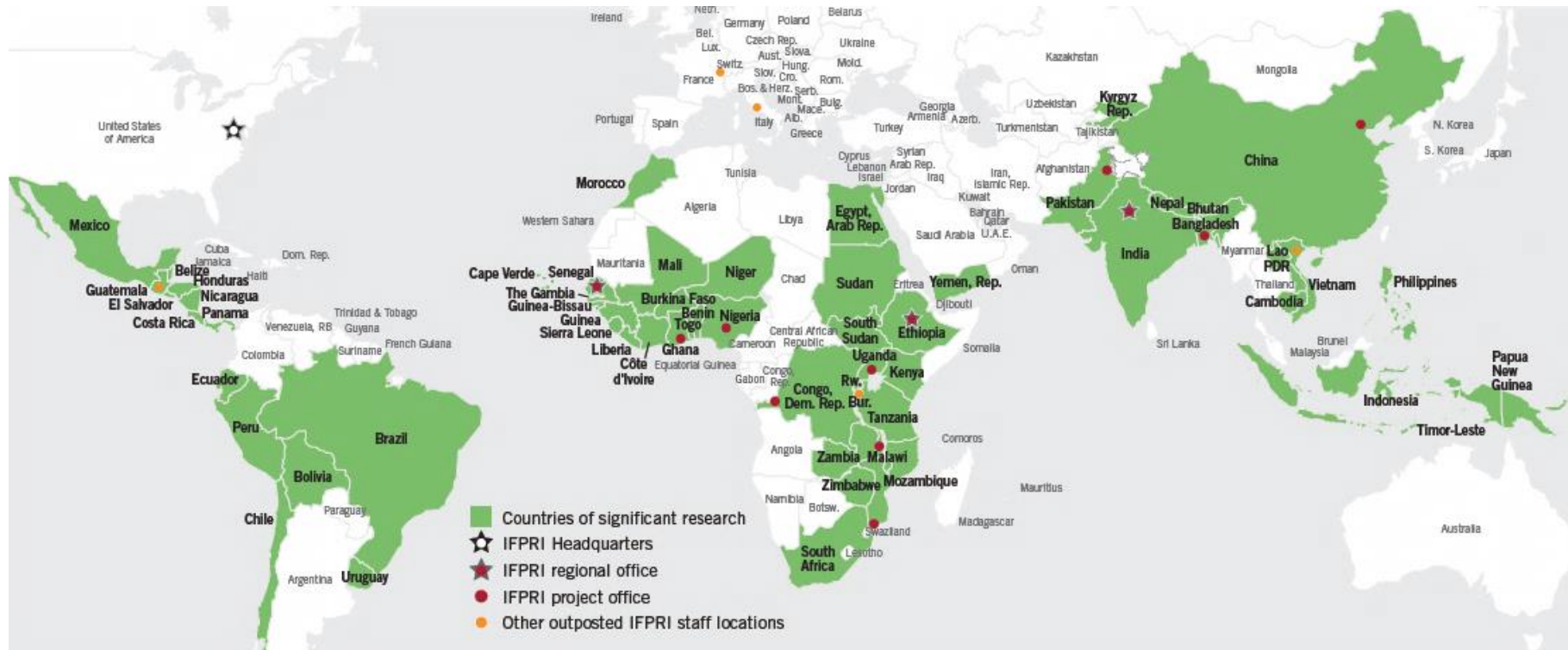


IFPRI Overview (cont'd)

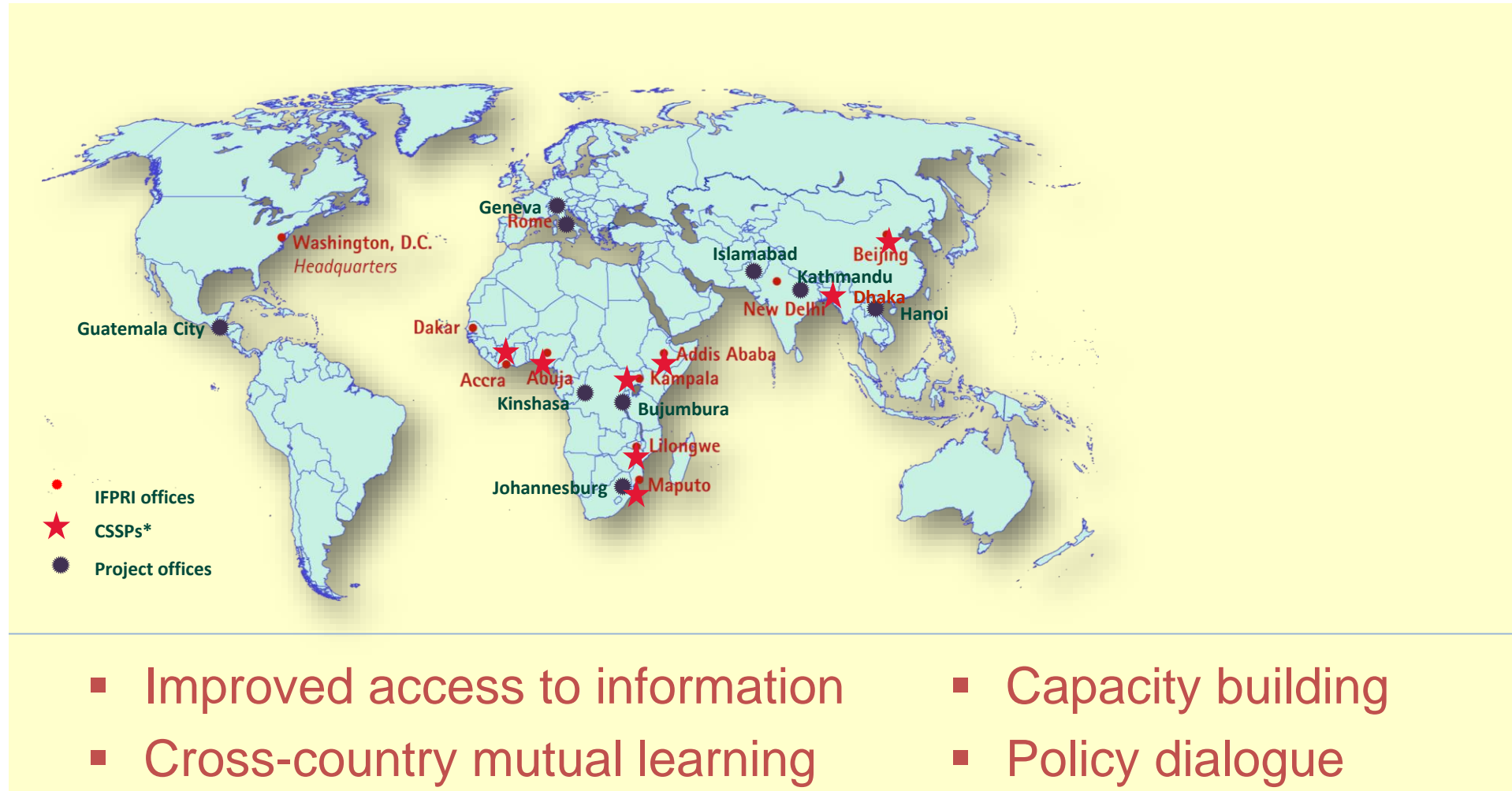
- **IFPRI provides high quality policy research**
 - Ranked among top 10 institutions in agricultural (2nd), computational (6th) and development (6th) economics in RePEc/IDEAS rankings
- **IFPRI's research has broad impact**
 - Shaping public investment priorities (India, CAADP, Ethiopia)
 - Moving nutrition up the global agenda (2020 policy dialogue)
 - Food security monitoring, analysis and planning (2007-08 food crisis, China)
 - Supporting sound trade and market policies (Ethiopia, Benin, Pakistan)



IFPRI Research on the Ground



IFPRI support country-led development processes



Note: * CSSPs = Country Strategy Support Programs



IFPRI's collaborative research activities in the region

Past research activities allowed to build a strong network in the region

- Research on institutional change and rural services in Kyrgyzstan funded by BMZ
 - Collaborators: Humboldt University Berlin, National Academy of Sciences of the Kyrgyz Republic and National Agency on Self-Governance of the Kyrgyz Republic
- Analytical support to USAID's Feed the Future program in Tajikistan
 - Collaborators: Tajikistan Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Institute of Agricultural Economics
- Regional Strategic and Analytical Knowledge Support System in Asia (ReSAKSS Asia) involves Central Asian policy-makers and researchers
 - Collaborators: CACAARI, University of Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan), Institute of Agricultural Economics (Tajikistan), independent consultants from Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan
 - Representatives from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan also participate in conferences and workshops

IFPRI's current research and capacity strengthening activities in the region

- Applied policy research on agriculture and food security
 - Methodological issues
 - Macro and sectoral issues
 - Household level analysis
 - Regional and intraregional issues
- Developing research tools and models and capacity strengthening
 - Dynamic CGE and econometric models
 - Combining biophysical, GIS and economic models
- Promote the exchange of experiences and dialogue, and the use of knowledge in the policy process within RESAKSS Asia initiative

Agricultural Policy and Food Security in Central Asia Project: Phase I (2013-2016)

- Supported by Russian Federation and two CGIAR research programs: PIM and A4NH
- Policy research components
 - Applied economywide modeling
 - Climate change
 - Assessing food and nutrition security, agriculture-nutrition linkages and value chains
 - Emerging issues in agricultural development and food security
- Capacity strengthening and outreach component
 - Support to improved capacity in quantitative policy analysis through formal training and collaborative research



Partners

- ECFS at Lomonosov Moscow State University is key research partner
- CGIAR PFU and CACAARI provides organizational and logistic support in the region
- We also collaborate with various universities and policy research institutes in the region
 - Kazakhstan: Kazakh National Agrarian University (KazNAU), Kazakh Academy of Nutrition (KAN), and International School of Economics at Kazakh-British Technical University (KBTU)
 - Kyrgyzstan: National Academy of Sciences and University of Central Asia (UCA)
 - Tajikistan: Tajikistan Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Institute of Agricultural Economics, Center for Nutrition under the Ministry of Health, and Zerkalo Analytical Group
 - Uzbekistan: Institute of Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research (IFMR) under the Cabinet of Ministers, Republican Educational-Scientific Center of Nutrition (Dietology) under Tashkent Medical Academy, and Westminster International University in Tashkent (WIUT)

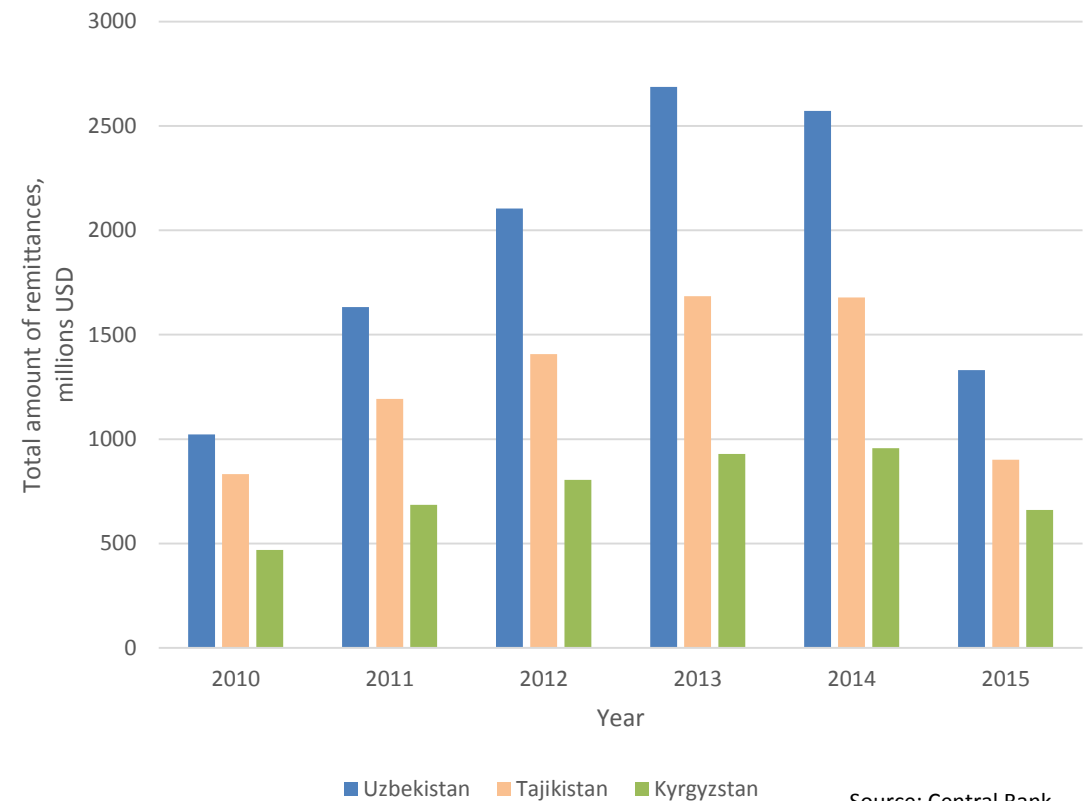


Some examples of IFPRI's Research in Central Asia

Impact of external shocks on Central Asian economies

- Declining commodity prices & economic slowdown in region's main trading partners (Russia & China) had negative impact on Central Asian economies
- Main impact channels
 - Trade
 - Migration and remittances
 - Investment
- Effects
 - Slower economic growth
 - Exchange rate depreciation & inflation
 - Declining household welfare and food security, especially for households in lower income quintiles
- The findings of this research are published in Global Food Policy Report 2015 and 2016 editions, and research report on Tajikistan is submitted for publication

Figure 1. Total Remittances Inflows from Russia (2010-2015, first half)



Examining Impact of Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) on selected Central Asian countries

- Member countries: Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Russia
- EEU assumes integration of product and factor markets
 - Free movement of goods behind common external tariffs
 - Unrestricted movement of people and capital
- IFPRI researchers together with local collaborators assessed the effects of Kyrgyzstan's joining EEU on domestic economy
 - Detailed SAM/CGE model was developed: 33 sectors and 10 household groups
- The findings of the study were presented in various seminars and conferences, including in Bishkek, and a draft paper – Kyrgyzstan's Accession to EEU: Measuring Economy-Wide Impacts and Uncertainties – is being submitted for publication
- Similar study assessing Tajikistan's potential joining EEU is in progress

Climate change, agricultural transformation and food security in Central Asia

- Conducted in collaboration with ECFS and country teams from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan
 - Country teams were trained by IFPRI in two training courses: Penang, Malaysia (2014) & Moscow, Russia (2015)
- The study provides empirical evidence on the impact of climate change on agricultural performance using econometric models and crop yields using biophysical and bioeconomic crop models
- It also evaluates the effects of future climate change scenarios on agriculture & food security using IFPRI's Global Impact Model
- Outputs
 - Research monograph (book) on climate change, agriculture, and food security in Central Asia (first draft is under review)
 - Strengthened analytical and modeling capacity in the region
 - IFPRI's Global Impact Model adopted for Central Asian countries' specific conditions

Research on agriculture and nutrition linkages

- Despite recent improvements, Central Asian countries continue to experience overlapping burdens of malnutrition
- The current strategies of national governments and development partners include promotion of agricultural diversification to ensure food and nutrition security
- These interventions could be very beneficial given the fact that Central Asian countries have less diversified agricultural production systems
- However, there is little evidence regarding the linkages between agricultural diversity, dietary diversity and nutritional outcomes in Central Asian context
- IFPRI's research tries to fill this gap by examining the relationship between agriculture and nutritional outcomes in the region

Research on agriculture and nutrition linkages (cont.)

- IFPRI researchers use sophisticated econometric estimation methods and household survey and district-level population and land allocation data to examine the relationship between agricultural diversity, dietary diversity and nutritional outcomes in Tajikistan
- Key empirical findings of the study suggest that agricultural diversity is positively associated with dietary diversity and dietary diversity is in turn correlated with child nutritional outcomes
- Findings also suggest that there is a strong negative association between household dietary diversity and share of land allocated to cotton and wheat at district level
- Thus, the study suggests that promotion of agricultural diversity may be necessary by allocating more land to horticulture and feed crops
- The findings of the study were presented in various conferences, including the 2nd International Conference on Global Food Security (Cornel University, 2015), and being submitted for publication
- Similar study on Kyrgyzstan in collaboration with ECFS researchers is in progress

Analysis of Value Chains from the Perspectives of Food Safety and Nutrition

- Survey of producers in dairy supply chains conducted by IFPRI and National Academy of Sciences of Kyrgyzstan in 2014
 - Survey covered 520 dairy farmers, 65 milk collectors (12 stationary and 53 mobile), and 26 milk plants
- Using this survey data food safety practices and contractual arrangements at each stage of the dairy value chain
- The findings of the study revealed
 - underinvestment in productivity
 - minimal quality and food safety control at the farmer level
 - milk plants informally contract with farmers through intermediaries
 - relational contracting between farmers and milk collectors
- The findings of the study were presented at various international conferences and published in **Journal of Industrial Economics** and **Economic Letters**



International Forum on Food Security and Nutrition Network and Eurasian Solidarity Partnership

Международное партнерство по развитию Евразийского сотрудничества в области продовольственной безопасности и питания
International Cooperation on Eurasian Food Security and Nutrition Network and Eurasian Solidarity Partnership

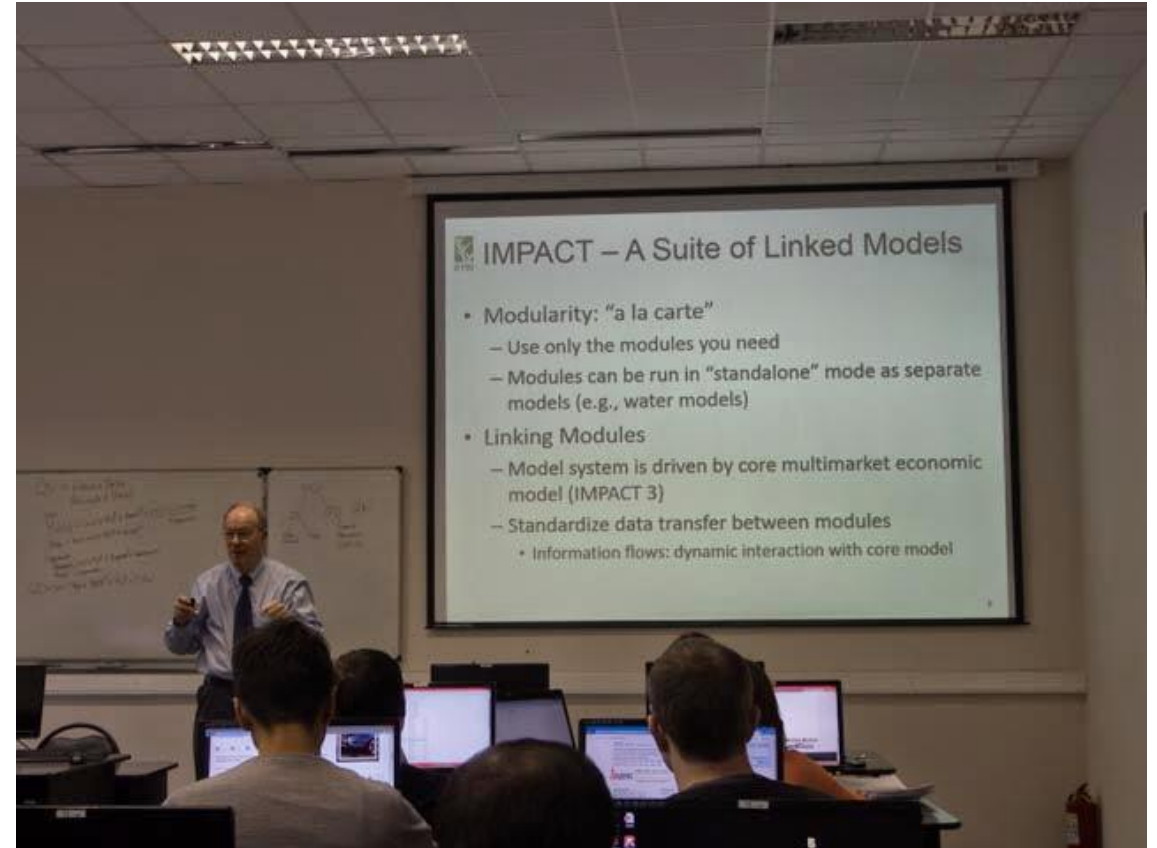
Capacity Strengthening and Outreach Activities



- In 2015, IFPRI in collaboration with UCA developed interactive online mapping and analytical tool and knowledge platform
- Kyrgyzstan Spatial provides access to more than 100 indicators at national, sub-national and pixel levels
- It facilitates unprecedented access to data and analytic tools to help policy makers and practitioners assess, anticipate and respond to needs related to agriculture and food security in the country
- Kyrgyzstan Spatial was featured at the top of the list as a cutting-edge technology in [*Top Solutions That Save Lives in Humanitarian Response and Disaster Relief*](#), a report by Aid and International Development Forum (AIDF)
- Kyrgyzstan Spatial is available at www.kyrgyzspatial.org
- IFPRI and UCA in collaboration with the Local Development Committee under President of the Republic of Tajikistan developed similar tool for Tajikistan, which was launched in September, www.tajikistanspatial.org

Strengthening economy-wide modeling capacity in the region

- Strengthening SAM/CGE modeling capacity through collaborative research
- Training courses on using Global Impact Model
 - Four researchers from Central Asia participated at the training course in Penang, Malaysia (April-May, 2014)
 - Training course for Eurasian countries was organized at MSU in collaboration with ECFS (January 26-31, 2015)
 - About 20 researchers from Russia and CA participated in these training courses
- IFPRI provided all trainees/researchers with long-term GAMS licenses



Training course in applied econometric analysis

- In 2014, IFPRI in collaboration with WIUT started training course in applied econometric analysis for young researchers from Central Asia
- Every year more than 20 young researchers/economists (selected in a competitive basis) from four CA countries participate in this training course
- This year a training course took place from September 13-23 in Tashkent
- Website with course information and training materials available at <https://www.resakss-asia.org/events/training-course-applied-econometric-analysis-summer-school-young-economistsresearchers>



Improving outreach in Eurasia

- IFPRI publishes the synopses of Global Food Policy Report and Global Nutrition Report in Russian language
- Global Nutrition Report 2015 was presented at Lomonosov Moscow State University on February 11, 2016
- IFPRI team worked together with ECFS, World Bank, FAO, and GFAR in organizing a major policy conference on food security and nutrition in Eurasia region (February 29-March 2, 2016, Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan)
- In collaboration with ECFS, World Bank and other partners in the region IFPRI organized a number of policy conferences, seminars, and workshops



The background of the slide is a photograph of a large agricultural field. The field is filled with rows of green, leafy plants, likely a type of vegetable or leafy green. The plants are dense and cover the entire foreground and middle ground. In the far distance, there is a flat horizon line with some faint outlines of trees or structures. The sky above is a clear, light blue with a few wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

Collaborative Research and Capacity Strengthening Program on Agricultural Policy and Food Security in Central Asia—Phase II (2017 - 2019)

Research component

- IFPRI's research in Phase 2 will continue to focus on assessing set of economic and agricultural policies from food security and nutrition perspectives
- Three priority research areas
 - Applied economic modeling
 - Assessing food and nutrition security, agriculture-nutrition linkages and value chains from food safety, nutrition and health perspectives
 - Emerging issues related to food and nutrition security
 - Migration and remittances
 - Agricultural productivity
 - Role of agriculture and rural economy in structural transformation of Central Asian economies

Capacity strengthening activities

- Information sharing and support to database formation at ECFS
- Content support to ECFS's educational programs and help strengthen its capacity in this area
- Support to further strengthening capacity in economy-wide and econometric modeling as well as application of these techniques in policy analysis and research
 - Formal training courses
 - Collaboration in specific research projects

Funding, project implementation and partnership

- The program will be implemented in close collaboration with ECFS and partner institutions in Central Asia
- ECFS researchers will participate in selected research activities
- IFPRI will set up a steering committee to oversee project implementation
- The main funding for the program will come from Russian Federation
- IFPRI will also raise additional funds from other donors

Thank you